THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) A proposal to address the health care needs of urban poor in a dedicated and focused manner is under consideration in consultation with all related Departments. After due deliberations, a decision will be taken in this regard.

Shortage of doctors and para medical staff

1589. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey to find out the shortage of qualified doctors and other staff in the medical profession;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how the Government proposes to tide over the current and impending human resource shortage in the medical profession?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No. However, as per information furnished by Medical Council of India? allopathic doctors population ratio works out to 1:1584 approximately. In addition there more than six lakh practitioners of Indian system of medicine and Homoeopathy. Taking all these number together, the doctor population ratio comes to 1:860 approximately.

(c) The Government of India has proposed the following steps to meet the growing need of medical professionals:-

(i) Medical Council of India Regulations are reviewed with regard to land requirement, teacher-student ratio and Introduction of public-private partnership which will facilitate starting of more medical colleges.

(ii) The National Rural Health Mission has been operationalised with the aim of providing accessible and reliable primary health care facilities especially to poor and the vulnerable section of the population.

(iii) Establishment of Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) and General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) schools m those districts which are not having both these training programmes.

(iv) Establishment of post graduation Nurstag (M.Sc Nursing) Institutions.

(v) There are 908 Pharmacy Institutions with an intake of 54133 students per annum and a new namely Pharm. D of 6 years duration from 2008-09 academic session as registerable qualification under the Pharmacy Act has been introduced.

Leprosy eradication

1590. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been able to eradicate leprosy in the country;

(b) what is the number of leprosy patients, State-wise; and

(c) what are the efforts being made to minimize the disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No. Eradication of Leprosy, which means the complete absence of the disease and the organism that causes it throughout the world, has not been achieved. However, the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) has achieved remarkable progress in reducing the burden of Leprosy in the country. India achieved the goal of elimination of Leprosy as a public health problem, defined as less than 1 case per 10,000 population at National level in December 2005 as set by National Health Policy 2002.

In the year 2008-09, 134184 new leprosy cases were detected. The State-wise new leprosy cases detected during last 3 years is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) NLEP is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme implemented by state Government through the country. The programme aims to minimize the disease with following components:-

(i) Decentralized integrated leprosy services through General Health Care System;

(ii) Training in leprosy to all General Health Services functionaries;

(iii) Intensified Information, Education & Communication (IEC);

(iv) Prevention of Disability and Medical Rehabilitation; and

(v) Monitoring and supervision.

Statement

State-wise number of new leprosy cases detected in last 3 years

Sl.No.	State/UT	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
		No. of new cases detected	No. of new cases detected	No. of new cases detected
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	9443	10047	9546
2	Arunachal Pradesh	59	45	38
3	Assam	1067	1268	1192
4	Bihar	21350	19041	20086
5	Chhattisgarh	6047	7808	7994
6	Goa	146	156	117
7	Gujarat	7652	7228	7581
8	Haryana	502	379	451
9	Himachal Pradesh	198	246	207

1	2	3	4	5
10	Jharkhand	7672	6799	5181
11	Jammu & Kashmir	264	209	205
12	Karnataka	4299	4522	4411
13	Kerala	870	778	827
14	Madhya Pradesh	5274	6058	6309
15	Maharashtra	11189	12397	14274
16	Manipur	44	54	38
17	Meghalaya	26	14	17
18	Mizoram	20	26	21
19	Nagaland	51	54	65
20	Orissa	5088	5685	6381
21	Punjab	960	964	933
22	Rajasihan	1263	1201	1177
23	Sikkim	19	27	29
24	Tamil Nadu	5316	5511	5022
25	Tripura	65	85	66
26	Uttar Pradesh	32413	31028	27577
27	Uttarakhand	763	763	667
28	West Bengal	13593	13551	11891
29	A & N Islands	35	18	25
30	Chandigarh	223	190	37
31	D & N Haveli	131	150	121
32	Daman & Diu	7	2	10
33	Delhi	3146	1331	1631
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35	Puducherry	57	50	57
	TOTAL :	139252	137685	134184

Herbal medicine for treatment of cataract and glucoma

†1591. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.